

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Coff.
4/23/99

In re application of:

GRUBER *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/076,115

Filed: May 12, 1998

For: **Methods for Production and
Purification of Nucleic Acid
Molecules**



Art Unit: ~~1634~~ 1653

Examiner: Tung, J.

Atty. Docket: 0942.4350001/RWE/BJD

Reply To Restriction Requirement

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated March 17, 1999, requesting an election of one invention to prosecute in the above-referenced patent application, Applicants hereby provisionally elect to prosecute the invention of Group I, represented by claims 1, 2, 6, 12, 16-20, 22, 25, 28, 29, 31, 32 and 41-43. This election is made without traverse, and without prejudice to or disclaimer of the other claims or inventions disclosed.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

It is believed that this application is now in condition for immediate examination. Early notification to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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Date: April 19, 1999

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